

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 13, 2005 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action.

Claims 1 and 7 are amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention and claims 3 and 8 are cancelled without prejudice. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested because the amendments place the application in condition for allowance or better condition for appeal, do not add new claims, do not raise issues that require further consideration and/or search, and do not contain new matter. Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-20 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,108,540 to Sonti et al. (Sonti). Applicants respectfully submit that Sonti fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of any of the pending claims. The rejection of claims 3 and 8 are moot in light of the cancellation of these claims.

Claim 1, from which claims 4-6 depend, recites a method for personalizing a service in a telecommunications system. The method includes maintaining a parameter list for a service, the list comprising parameters associated with the service. The method further includes maintaining a value on at least two different levels for at least a first parameter, the first level being a system or service-specific level and the second level

being a subscription-specific level in which a parameter value is separately defined for each subscription in the system, and maintaining at least two service data profiles for the service, the profiles both comprising definitions of the levels for the parameters and the profiles differing from one another at least in that in the first service data profile the first parameter value is on the first level, whereas in the second service data profile it is on the second level.

Claim 7, from which claims 9-11 depend, recites a telecommunications system software product comprising a computer-readable program stored in a program storage means, the program comprising a first routine for maintaining a parameter list for a service, the list comprising parameters associated with the service, wherein the program comprises a second routine for maintaining at least a first parameter value on at least two different levels, the first level being more individualizing than the second level, and a third routine for maintaining at least two service data profiles for the service, the profiles both comprising definitions of the levels for the parameters and the profiles differing from one another at least in that in the first service data profile the value of the first parameter is on the first level, whereas in the second service data profile it is on the second level. The program product further includes a fourth routine to indicate in the system subscriber data the service data profile to be used for providing a service to the subscriber, and a fifth routine for providing the service to the subscriber by using the parameter level values defined on the basis of the service data profile definitions.

Claim 12, from which claims 13-16 depend, recites a telecommunications system. The telecommunications system includes a network node for maintaining for a service a parameter list of parameters associated with the service. The system is configured to maintain at least a first parameter value on at least two different levels, the first level being more individualizing than the second level, and to maintain at least two service profiles for the service, the profiles both comprising definitions of the levels for the parameters and the profiles differing from one another at least in that in the first service data profile the value of the first parameter is on the first level, whereas in the second service data profile it is on the second level.

Claim 17, from which claim 18 depends, recites a network node for maintaining a parameter list of parameters associated with a service in a telecommunications system. The network node includes memory means for maintaining a value for at least a first parameter on at least two different levels, the first level being more individualizing than the second level, and for maintaining at least two service data profiles for a service, the profiles both comprising parameter level definitions and the profiles differing from one another at least in that in the first service data profile the value of the first parameter is on a first level, whereas in the second service data profile it is on a second level.

Claim 19, from which claim 20 depends, recites a network node for providing a service in a telecommunications system in which a list of the parameters for the service is maintained, wherein for providing the service to the subscriber. The network node includes a first routine to find out in the subscriber data of the system which one of the

service data profiles of the service has been subscribed to, the service data profiles including definitions of the levels for the parameters and the profiles differing from one another in relation to at least one parameter level definition, and a second routine for retrieving the parameter values from the levels based on the definitions in the service data profile.

In certain embodiments, the present invention is a solution in which values for a certain service parameter can be maintained on different levels, e.g., a global level, a service-specific level or on a profile-specific level and/or a subscriber-specific level. The levels differ from each other in that one level is more individualized than the previous levels. For example, a service-specific level is more individualized than a global level, a profile-specific level is more individualized than a service-specific level, and a subscription-specific level is more individualized than a profile-specific level. Further, certain embodiments of the present invention are directed to maintaining service data profiles (1-1, 1-2, 1-3, N-1, N-2) for services (service1, serviceN). The service data profiles differ from each other in that the values of the parameters (a, b, c, d, e) included in the service data profiles (1-1, 1-2, 1-3, N-1, N-2), which levels (gl, se, pr, su) for different service data profiles (1-1, 1-2, 1-3, N-1, N-2), which levels differ from each other in that one level is more individualized than the other. As will be discussed below, Sonti fails to disclose or suggest the elements of any of the pending claims, and therefore fails to provide the advantages noted above.

Sonti is directed to a multi-profile subscriber. Sonti discloses a system wherein a subscriber may chose between different profiles. In Sonti, a home location register holds subscriber information that includes an active profile number field and a plurality of feature lists identified by number. The active profile number field specifies which feature list is currently available to the respective subscriber.

Applicants respectfully submit that Sonti fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature of maintaining a value on at least two different levels for at least a first parameter, the first level being a system or service-specific level and the second level being a subscription-specific level in which a parameter value is separately defined for each subscription in the system, as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 7, 12, and 19.

In contrast, Sonti merely discloses that a subscriber may choose one of a plurality of feature lists as an active feature list i.e., as an active profile (See Fig. 4a of Sonti). There is no mention in Sonti that feature 1 is more individualized than feature 3, or similarly, that feature 5 on feature list 1 is more individualized than feature 5 on feature list 2. Thus, Sonti, at best mentions that a subscriber may select a different list for different times of day or geographic areas (see the Abstract of Sonti). Further, Applicants submit that the geographic location is not more individualized than the time of day, as alleged on page 2, of the Office Action.

Still further, in Sonti, subscriber information is stored at the HLR such that four profiles A, B, C, and D are stored for a subscriber (see Sonti at column 6 lines 5-23 and

Fig. 4b). However, Sonti fails to mention, disclose or suggest maintaining different profiles for a service, as recited in the present pending claims. Thus, Sonti fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 1, 7, 12, and 19.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2, 4-6, 9-11, 13-18, and 20 depend from claims 1, 7, 12, and 19, these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as claims 1, 7, 12, and 19. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Sonti fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of these dependent claims.

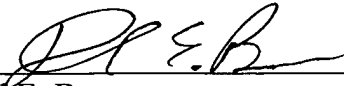
Based at least on the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 9-20. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 9-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request that each of claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-20 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Brown
Registration No. 51,091

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
8000 Towers Crescent Drive, 14TH Floor
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

DEB:jkm